

VPSCG – Regional Choice Initiative
Principals' Meeting
Agenda
May 4, 2011

Prepared by: Marianne LeDonne, RCI Director

9:00AM – 9:15 AM

RCI – Open Seats Program

- District Participation
- PIMS Answer
- Google Doc and the Lottery
- June 30 Deadline and Lottery

9:15AM – 9:30 AM

RCI- Dual Enrollment Program

- RCI Allocation and District Plans
- College Course Guides

9:30 AM – 9:45 AM

RCI – Cyber/Technology Program

- FLVN Courses are Free
- Online Teacher Training

9:45 AM – 10:00AM

RCI - Choice Academies/Academy for Success Program

- Big Beaver Falls (Grades 9-12) and New Brighton (Grade7) Academies

10:15 AM – 10:30AM

Miscellaneous

- Celebration Dinners
- Upcoming Teachers' Academy
- SES Provider
- May 13 Annual Progress Report and Data

VPSCG – Regional Choice Initiative
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Background
May 4, 2011

Prepared by: Marianne LeDonne, RCI Director

RCI – Open Seats Program

- **Two hundred-eight students from thirteen school districts** are currently participating in the Open Seats Program. We currently have **seven** students transferring for a full-day program. Fifty-five students attend class through Interactive videoconferencing, and fifty students are physically transferred to their classroom.
- I forwarded to you the response the PIMS Helpdesk gave me when I asked how students participating in Open Seats should be reported. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. The administrator in charge of Child Accounting will be calling me to discuss our programs.
- Marsha Hughes has created a Google Doc and placed it on our Wiki to make transparent to all districts the specific courses students need and the seats districts have available in specific courses. It was agreed by the counselors that they would post their students' needs on this document as a step leading to the Lottery Process. Additionally, districts showcasing specific course availability can use the document. Superintendents, principals, and counselors have access to this "live" document.
- It was decided by guidance counselors at the April 13th Pupil Services Personnel Meeting to extend reporting student course requests to June 30. It was then agreed that the Lottery System process would take place in July with district personnel invited as witnesses and that student schedules could be changed from that point into the 2011-2012 school year. The RCI office will report all results from the Lottery to all districts before the end of July. The original dates for the Lottery process are on the enclosed document.

RCI- Dual Enrollment Program

- In anticipation of next year, the RCI Dual Enrollment allocation looks to be approximately \$40,000 per district. Please contact the RCI office before the end of this school year to discuss your district's plan for using your RCI allocation for the 2011-2012 school year.
- Guidance Counselors were given course guides by CCBC and PSU for the upcoming school year with registration deadlines and instructions. All students registering for a Dual Enrollment course, using RCI funds must be

registered in the RCI Data Management System by their counselor as a required step to registering with the college.

RCI – Cyber/Technology Program

- All districts have a complete online curriculum, with electives, for students in grades 7-12 from which to choose. Please feel free to call the RCI office to discuss cost-effective scenarios for your district. Training your staff can be organized to take place in your district by RCI staff. The RCI will reimburse your districts for the substitutes used during the training.
- Learning to be an online teacher can take place as teachers sit in the comfort of their own homes and complete the training. Let us know who may be interested in learning how to be an online teacher on his/her own time. Please call our office to secure a seat.

RCI - Choice Academies/Academy for Success Program

- Please look for announcements in the near future alerting you to opportunities for students to attend an Academy for Success. Two districts, Big Beaver Falls (Grades 9-12) and New Brighton (Grade 7), are very close to completing the verification process to be identified as an Academy for Success. Your student's tuition would be funded through the RCI Open Seat Program as a full-time transfer student for \$4,800.00. All transportation costs and arrangements are secured through the RCI office.

Miscellaneous

- Celebration Dinners for students participating in the RCI 2010-2011 Open Seats and/or Dual Enrollment Programs are planned for the following districts:

Freedom	May 4
Aliquippa	May 5
Big Beaver Falls	May 11
Western Beaver	May 12
New Brighton	May 16
Riverside	May 17
Ellwood City	May 19

Rochester

May 25

- Brochures for Teachers Academy Cohort 4 have been delivered. This year we have included Fine Arts teachers in the invitation. The registration deadline is May 27, 2010.
- The BVIU has applied to be an SES provider. The application has been placed on the Wiki for your review.
- The Annual Progress Report for the USDE is due May 13, 2011. Your counselors have been asked to have all participating students registered in the RCI Data Management System by the end of April, and final grades for those students by June 30.

VPSCG-Regional Choice Initiative

Lottery System

Open Seats

Prepared by: Marsha Hughes and Marianne LeDonne
(05/19/10)

Policy:

Seats cannot be reserved by Districts independent of the RCI Office.
This action violates students' Equal/Open Access Rights under the current Grant.

Procedure:

May 1 - 15th - Districts send all Open Seat requests to RCI Office

- A faxed copy of the completed RCI Open Seat registration form from the RCI Data Management System will serve as the only acceptable request form.

May 15th –May 30th

- RCI Office notifies Host(s) of requested seats per course.
- Host verifies available seats.
- RCI fills seats and sends roster to Host and notification to Districts.

-OR-

- RCI runs Lottery if requests outnumber seats.
- RCI notifies districts who won seats and who did not.
- RCI sends Host the student roster.
- RCI investigates additional vendors and communicates new options to Districts.
- RCI holds waiting list until end of Drop/Add(**Sept 10th**) in the event a seat becomes available.